

SEAS THE DAY

Volume 1 Issue 4

August 2025

Thirty Hours Non-Stop

The Myth of Malham is an offshore race from Cowes (Isle of Wight) to the Eddystone Lighthouse, south of Plymouth and around it to port with a finish off The Needles.

Alex Tebbit was aboard the Fulmar Fever, a Westerley Fulmar and probably one of the oldest and smallest yachts in her class. She was the 13th Fulmar built by Westerly back in 1980 but her original and present sail number is FR 14 because 13 is considered an unlucky number! Alex started at 0930 on Saturday morning in class four and finished approximately 1530 on the Monday having completed roughly 300 nautical miles.

The watches were 4 on and 4 off, and most of the time people simply took their boots off and slept in their waterproofs. Sailing in the dark, with no point of reference, takes a lot of concentration! The wind ranged from 20- 23 knots from the west meaning a beat from the start line to the Eddystone and then a run back with a spinnaker.

Alex will be chuffed to share his experience with anyone who is interested. Grab him in the bar – he deserves a pint!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

August

~~Friday 1st – Sunday 3rd – Weekend Cruise.~~
~~Destination CANCELLED~~

Saturday 23rd – Pontoon Party and
Treasure Hunt

October

Weekend of 4th and 5th Crane Out

November

Saturday 8th – Dinner Dance

We would like to welcome Iain Henderson to the club. Iain is a 'well kent face' as they say, often in tow with Bob!

Just finished 24/35 IRC 4, 74/130 starters irc over all -
in [Milford on Sea](#).



The finishing position for Class 4 but also 75th overall – well done Alex!

KELPIES

Firstly, well done to our very own Racing Commodore, George who secured a first overall in the Kelpie Cup, a race from Port Edgar to Grangemouth and back.

Also getting placed were Pud and Graeme coming 2nd and Roger and Peter coming 3rd in Division Two.

Many FCC boats joined the racing and cruising event and with the beautiful weather, it really was a perfect weekend. We can only hope that PEYC run it again next year.

However, honours really should also go to our Cruising Commodore, Rab for getting stuck in and helping Jason untangle a rope that was caught in his prop.

That's the club spirit in action!



Aberdour Cruise

Another successful cruise took place to Aberdour, despite rather gloomy weather. Five boats cruised up on Saturday 12th June.

The journey to Aberdour allowed members to see the Type 31 on her maiden voyage, heading from Leith to Rosyth to be fitted out. She had been transported to Leith by barge a few days before.

Our ability to attract new, younger sailors was evidenced by Jamie and Ollie who were keen to try a spot of fishing from Liberty's bow.

If you cannot stay overnight on a cruise, feel free to join for the social parts – in this case an evening in the lovely Aberdour Boat Club clubhouse or a coffee at one of the lovely cafes.



In ancient times ships were far more fuel efficient. They got thousands of miles to the galleon!



The Chase Race Experience

Alastair Scobie gives us his thoughts after his race.

“When we bought Caramel Sutra off Keith in 2022, we had no intention to race her. We were all quite happy to potter almost aimlessly along the Forth and occasionally, in my case, compete in club races as crew for Keith on Joint Venture.

After some encouragement from Roger and Peter, Dan and I entered Caramel Sutra for the sternchase at the start of June. Some confusion as to the exact start of the race meant that while we were originally almost spot on to cross the line at our allotted time, we ended up crossing 30s late. It didn't take much time for Django and Louise to pass us by! A highlight was keeping up with Moonshadow whilst goosewinged.

As several club members have pointed out, racing forces you to hone your sail trim skills. When leisurely pottering I don't particularly bother about how fast I'm going - but you never know when you might care about trying to outrun the tide or changing weather, so improving one's sail trim skills could be crucial. The forced close interaction with other boats also gives practice in identifying when you're give way vessel – or not (apologies to Liberty)!

Above all, it's great fun and it would be fantastic if more club boats would take part.”

Thanks for inspiring us, Alastair!

It's all Greek to George!

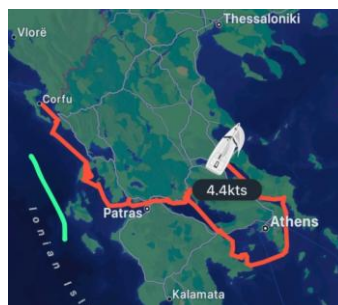
One of the wonderful things about FCC is listening to the tales of others and being inspired to consider something new.

George McKay started taking sailing holidays to Greece over 20 years ago. It was wonderful to (mostly) be able to sail without tidal and weather restrictions. Over the years he has taken flotilla holidays, bareboat charter, and for six years was part of a yacht ownership syndicate: all enjoyable ways of experiencing sailing in Greece. His most recent trip was a three-week flotilla delivery trip, starting in the north of Corfu and sailing approximately 600 nautical miles to Oreoi in the municipality of Euboea. They were three people in a Beneteau Oceanis 45.

The highlights of this trip included passing through the 4-mile-long Corinth Canal. This dramatic 19th Century feat of engineering was great to see as, despite many years of Greek sailing, George had not previously had time to go through it.

Going through the Old Evripos Bridge, which connects mainland Greece with the island Euboea, was novel as they had to wait until dark to pass through. The bridge's operation is timed with the unique tidal currents of the strait, which reverse direction several times a day.

Seek out George for more Greek tales and inspiration!



COMMODORE'S CHATTER

It's great to see so many boats being used and enjoyed this summer. I'm writing this over the weekend of the Kelpie Cup and as I look out over the moorings at Limekilns harbour, there are only three boats still at their berths.

Although sailing takes priority over the summer months, the committee has several projects on the go. At this year's AGM we hope to ask if you wish to paint the outside walls of the club house, if we can first persuade the planning authority to give their approval. You might also have noticed that the Wednesday work party have moved the chain shed. This is to free up more space on the patio, which can get very crowded during social events. I'm sure everyone shares my gratitude to the work party for their support of the club.

One of the benefits of our club is the space to store tenders, oars and outboards. However, the space is somewhat limited and we are struggling to work out whether equipment is in current use or not. A plea from me please to put your boat name on all dinghies, oars and outboards to assist in organising the space that we have.

ROGER

CLUB CHILLS

It has been a Goldilocks season for racing so far – too light, too strong but rarely just right. We have had to cancel or rearrange five races so far.

The upside of a rearranged Driftwood Trophy was that we had record numbers at our BBQ, which ironically had been rearranged and fell on a spectacular sailing day!

Erik and Katie made sure that weather, music, food and chilled vibes came together for a glorious afternoon. As always Lindsay made sure drinks were served and all in all a good day was had. It was particularly lovely to have some new faces and also to have impromptu catering support in the form of desserts and salads.

We even had a sense of drama with the lifeboat appearing although it turned out, thankfully, to be a case of a concerned caller who thought some paddleboarders might have been in difficulty. They weren't and were well kitted out and capable so no help required.





THE ENGLISH RAID

We had eleven visiting boats, all trailer sailors, who visited from around the U.K. as part of a visit to Granton Harbour, calling themselves 'The English Raid'. They made a beautiful sight sailing back down river in their eye-catching yawls. Thanks to all who gave them a warm welcome.

FCC REGATTA

Well, what a weekend we had at the FCC Regatta.

The highlight was having so many visitors from Blackness Yacht Club, especially with several of them joining our Saturday race.

We had 14 boats competing and the concerns about the start line proved accurate as it was extremely busy with much yelling and attempts at manoeuvring.

The competitors enjoyed a fine afternoon of racing with a very competent Alan Carter taking on ODD. It was a change to use FYCA handicaps rather than FCC handicaps. The honours for Day 1 went to Pud and Rob. Well done!

The traditional Regatta post racing BBQ was very well attended! (Note: We must all remember to let Erik know our plans BEFORE the event!). The catering just gets better and better, the gazebo, new patio layout and general bonhomie led to another excellent event.

The following day saw windier conditions and 5 boats turning out. It proved to be an incredibly closely run race with Liberty coming second to Calloo.

With a tie between Louise and Calloo, the overall winner goes to Calloo (and Erik and Katie) as she was the winner of the final race in the two- race competition.

The club boat was also launched and did a marvellous job of supporting Maverick onto the pontoon after an engine failure.

The unfortunate collision on Saturday was a reminder that all boat owners should be 100% certain of the terms of their insurance.

It is a good idea to rake out the paperwork and see exactly what is covered, and more importantly, what is not!



SPOTLIGHT ON....

Lindsay McIntyre

Lindsay is our very own Bet Lynch – a welcoming smile and responsible for all things bar!

First sailing experience: I first started sailing only 4 years ago when Jason came home having bought a boat out of the blue! I had to learn very quickly and enjoyed a few weekends RYA training and a day learning to 'sail your own boat' before braving it out on the Forth, I discovered this new hobby in my 50's and quickly realised I actually quite like sailing (as long as it's not too early in the morning!)

Favourite local destination: Probably Aberdour for a picnic or Port Edgar for a weekend.

Perfect après sailing drink: Usually a cold Chardonnay however more often than not a cocktail out of a tin, I love a Strawberry Daiquiri.

Hairiest moment on a boat: Nothing too dramatic yet! I think probably stepping off the boat onto the pontoon and not making it was quite hairy, lots of yelling and needing a shove back onto the boat was very undignified in a busy harbour!

FOR SALE

Jacara – Seadog 30 Ketch

Contact Robert Peebles

£10,000

All contact details are in the Members' Section of the website.

The For Sale section can be used for any boat related items. If you wish anything to be put in For Sale in August, please let Karen Hart know.

Many thanks to Nan for representing our club at the village celebration of flowers.



Forth Cruising Club



Pontoon Party

Saturday 23rd August 2025

Cruise and Cocktails



Departing Capernaum Pier at 14:00hrs for a short "Cruise in Company", before rafting up for an overnight stay on the club's South Pontoons. Cocktails and drinks on-board followed by a BBQ on the pier. All members are very welcome either on the water or later ashore.